

## CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED PATENT APPLICATIONS

[0001] This application claims priority to U.S. Provisional Application 60/281,808, filed April 6, 2001, and whereby this application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application 10/448,468, filed May 30, 2003, <sup>now U.S. Pat. 6,980,854</sup> which in turn is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application 10/397,533, filed March 27, 2003, <sup>now U.S. Pat. 7,018,343</sup> which in turn is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application 10/201,644, filed July 24, 2002, <sup>now U.S. Pat. 6,748,264</sup> which in turn is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application 10/074,234, filed February 14, 2002, <sup>now U.S. Pat. 6,743,215</sup> which in turn is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application 09/942,044, filed August 30, 2001, <sup>now U.S. Pat. 6,687,537</sup> which in turn is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application 09/922,927, filed August 7, 2001, <sup>U.S. Pat. 6,535,761</sup> each of which is incorporated in its entirety herein by reference.

## BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

### A. FIELD OF THE INVENTION

[0002] The invention relates to application of electrical pulses and mechanical vibrations to the skin in a controlled manner, in order to increase the absorption of a substance that is applied at the same time to the skin, whereby the substance is an ascorbic acid, lidocaine, collagen, or other type of skin treatment substance.

### B. DESCRIPTION OF THE RELATED ART

[0003] It is known that an electrical pulse applied to the skin is useful in order to increase the absorption of a substance previously applied to the skin, whereby this technique is known as electroporation. Such a